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S P E E C H

Made in the House of P E E R E S.

By the right Honorable the Earle of
Monmouth, on Thursday the Thirteenth
of January 1641.

Vpon the occasion of the present destructions,
and of his Majesties removall from *White-hall*.

With the Humble Petition of the
Inhabitants of the County of *Buckingham*, In the
behalf of Mr. *Hampden*, Knight for the said County,
and of the rest of the said members of Parlia-
ment, accused by his Majestic
of Treason.

With his Majesties gratious answer thereunto.

As also the Humble Petition of di-
vers of the Knights, Gentlemen, Clergy and
and other Inhabitants of the County
of *SOMMERSET*.

With the last true newes from *Ireland*.

Printed in the yeare, 1641.



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A Speech made in the
House of Peeres, by the
Right Honorable Earle of
Monmouth on Thursday the
the 13. of January.

1641.

My Lords.



Shall desire to be heard speake a few wordes, which I would much rather have heard spoken by any of your Lordships, that so they might have a happier and a more handsome expression; though with a better heart, and clearer intentions they could not have beeene spoken.

The sad condition wee are now in (my Lords) is such as is too apparent to any man, who hath but halfe an eye: the City of London is full of jealousies & apprehensions, wee sit not here free from feares; the King hath withdrawne himselfe from hence, together with his Quene and children, out of a beleife, (as I conceive) that his Majesties Person was not safe here. While things continue in this posture (my Lords) wee may well feare an impairing, wee can hardly hope for the bettering of affaires. God hath placed us (my Lords)

In

in the Medium betwixt the King and his people, let us play our parts (my Lords) let us doe our duties, and discharge our consciences; let us really prove, what wee are by Name, Noblemen; let us endeavour to work a perfect and a true understanding, betweene the King and his people : let us freely unbosome our selves to his Majesty; and desire that his Majesty will be pleased to doe so to us; and to this end, (my Lords) which is the end of my motion, if it shall be approved of by your Lordships, I do humbly move, that by way of conference, or any other way, wee may desire the House of Commons to joyne with us; first in an humble petition to his Majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to returne to his good City of *London*, as the safest place we conceive for his sacred Person in these distempred times; and then that they will likewise joyne with us in a Profession or Protestation, that we will doe what in us lies to free his Majesty from his feares; to take from the Citizens of *London*, and his Majesties other subjects their jealousies and apprehensions; and that we will live and dye his Maiesties fauill advisors, counsellors and Loyall Subiects.

The Humble Petition of the
Inhabitants of the County of
Buckingham.

In the behalfe of Master *Hampden*
Knight for the said County, and of the rest of the
members of Parliament, accused by his
Majestic of High Treason.

Sheweth,

THAT your petitioners having by vertue of your highnes writ chosen *John Hampden* Esquire Knight for our Shire in whose loyalty and wisedome, we his Counreymen, and Neighbours have e- ver had good cause to confide : how ever of late, to our no lesse amazement then greife, wee finde him with other members of Parliament accused of Treason, and having taken to our serious consideration, the manner of their impeachments we cannot but (under your Maesties favour) conceive, that it doth so oppugne the rights of Parliaments, to the maintenance whereof our Protestation bind us : That we beleive it is the malice (which their zeale to your Maesties service, and the State, hath contracted) in the enewies to your Ma- iesty, the Church, and common wealth hath occasio- ned this fowle accusation rather then any desert of theirs; who doe likewise through their sides wound the iudgement and care of us your Petitioners, and others by whose choice they were presented to the House.

Your petitioners most humbly pray that Master Hamp- den, and the rest that lye under the burden of that ac- cusation may enjoy the Iust privileges of Parliament.

And your Petitioners will ever pray &c.

His Maiesies answer.

*At the Court at Windsor the 13th of
January. 1642.*

His Maiesy being graciously pleased to let all his Subiects understand his care not (knowingly) to violate in the least degree, any of the Priviledges of Parliament, hath therefore lately by a Message sent by the Lord Keeper signified; That he is pleased (because of the doubt that hath beeneraised of the manner) to waive his former proceedings against the said *Master Hampden* and the rest mentioned in this Petition, concerning whom his Maiesy intends to proceed in an unquestionable way. And then his Maiesy saith it will appeare that hee had so sufficient groundes to question them, as hee might not in Iustice to the Kingdome, and honour to himselfe have forborne; and yet his Maiesy had much rather that the said persons should prove innocent, then be found guilty, how ever, hee cannot conceive that their crimes can in any sort reflect upon those his good Subiects, who elected them to serve in Parliament.

The Humble Petition of the Knights, Gentle- men, Clary and other Inhabitants of the County of Sommerset.

Sheweth,



Hat having with great ioy of mind often heard of the pious inclination of this Honourable Assembly unto the Reformation of Church Government, and having of late (not without some regret) seene a Petition in the name of the Knights,

Gentlemen and others of this County, tending most to the Confirmation of Episcopall power : We have thought it our duty likewise to rouse up our affection unto Gods cause , and in all humility to lay these expressions thereof at the feet of this great Councell, as being (under God) the chiese Arbitrator betwecne our ioy and sorow.

FO: the present Chirch Government , of what right it is wee may not dispute , presuming it to be subject to the power of this Honourable assembly ; Neither doth it much import how ancient it is , or how neare the Apostles dayes, seeing we know that in the dayes of the Apostles themselves , the mystery of iniquity began to worke, and that by the efficacious operation of the same , the man of sinne hath advanced himselfe from the Episcopall chaire to the top of Antichristian Tyranny. But that this Government is the wisest and most pious that any people hath beene blest withall since the Apostles dayes (what ever others may beleeve) we presume is no part of the Creed of this great counsell; whose godly zeale in purging the corruptions, and punishing the enemie of the true Church , being already in part made manifest, doth give us rather a just cause to hope that God hath yet some further blessing of Reformation for us , to be wrought by the same hands, In prosecution whereof, if it shall enter into your hearts at this time to give a deadly wound unto that power , against which you have received so many complaints, we are sure you shall not walke in an unknowne path, but such as hath beene troden before you by almost all the Churches of God which have exchanged the superstition and bondage of Rome , for the glorious light and liberty of the Gospell. Neither

may,

may it be conceived as the least degree of indignity offered to the blessed memory of those ancient or later Bishops who have so well deserved of the Church of God both in life and death, if that Government which they have adorned by their singular piety and virtues being through the corruption and wickednesse of those which have succeeded them made intolerable, shall by your just authority be abolished. Or if the number and merit of learned and godly Bishops famous in their generations be presumed to be a reasonable inducement for the continuation of that Government, we leave it to consideration of this wise Councell, whether the great and far surpassing multitude of ambitious; ungodly, and infamous Prelates, in most Countries and Ages by-past, be not a more effectuall motive for the extirpation of the same. Hereunto if we adde the present experience even in these our dayes of their many insolencies and outrages against the truth and power of Godlinesse, suppressing and corrupting Gods Ordinances, Vnhollowing his day, persecuting his Ministers; Their late mischevous attempt to impose on us and our posterity an in supportable Yoake of servitude and that which deserveth the highest pitch of Zeale and all the bowels of this Honourable Senate, the notorious multitude of profane and scandalous Ministers the most active and malitious enemies unto Reformation, and the authoritie from which it is desired. Wee trust that all this together, with much more well knowue to this Honorable Assembly, will be sufficient to justify the feares wee have conceiuued of so dangerous a power.

WHERE FORE being perswaded in our mindes,
that it will be a worke acceptable unto God, of great ad-
vantage and comfort to the Churches of Christ, and
no lesse conducing to the saftie, peace and strength of
all

all His Majestis eKingdomes? wee most hnmbly implore the Authority and zeale of this honourable Assembly to proceed unto the full accomplishment of the same; And having laid the Axe to the root of this Tree, to do nnto it as to a plant which the Heauenly Father hath not planted, that neither the spreading boughes of the same may over-shadow the Vineyeard of the Lord, nor the bitter fruit thereof make sad the heart of the people of God any more for ever.

THESE are the desires of your most humble Petitioners, and wee are perswaded, would have beeene the expressions of Multitudes more of true-hearted Christians and Subjects, had there not beeene some indirect practices used in soliciting the former Petition; whereby many wonne to subscribe thareunto, who have sinence declared themselves in the point of Episcopacie, to have beeene at the doing thereof otherwise affected. Howbeit unto us it is sufficient, that rehysng wholly on the good Providence of God, the pietie and wisedome of this Honourable assembly, and the sincerity of our owne intenions, wee cannot want he comforts of a good hope, while we have the libertie & powre out our soules unto Almighty God to continne and encreased his favours and gracious aspect towards this honourable & religious assembly.

Sir Simon Harcot and the Governer of Dublin Castle have disarmed all Papists in Dublin, and have overthrowne the Rebels and killed many, so that no Rebell is to be seene within 7. miles of Dublin. The 9. of this moneth the Protestant Soldiers beate down the Massie house in Dublin, & threatened to hang the Massie Priest, & broke down all the Images & spoyled their Trinkets. Tredath was ready to be relieved by sea. That day we came away we saw the Irish make fires to raise more helpe, so their hopes will be frustrate. Corne is reasonable at Dublin, considering our occasions; the Jesuites and roring Irish capaines would willingly be gone with the Protestants mony & goods, but we hope they shall leave their heads first, if wee can but be supplied againe from England.

FINIS.

